

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2017

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, G. Pohorely, S. Marr, S. McDonald
Absent:

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the “Open Public Meetings Act” read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Monday, March 13, 2017. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the minutes be approved for the meeting of January 9, 2017.

Ayes: 3, Abstain: 1, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Arbor Day Pamphlet: March/April 2017 - This material will be filed for future reference.
2. Tree City Bulletin #21 How Trees Can Save Energy -This material will be filed for future reference.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. CSIP Grant – The planting list for the grant is almost complete. K. Halpin stated that she is opposed to planting any tree under electric wires. S. McDonald suggested that locations should be reviewed if a property owner is considering solar panels. S. Marr replied that this may provide an excuse for homeowners that are not agreeable towards a new tree. G. Pohorely will have a full list for the April 10th meeting. The landscaper list will also be determined, since quotes are needed to move forward in this process.
2. 2016 Encumbrance – The remaining funds from last year were scheduled for Penny Toss proprietor, Tim Terry to replace the Golden Rain tree in front of the downtown pocket park. However, the replacement tree would be in close proximity to the downtown crosswalk, which is slated to be relocated in the near future. K. Halpin suggested that Mr. Terry plant the replacement tree at the Borough Park as an alternate location. Kathy recommended a flowering tree that could be seen from Rt. 31 and at the far end of the baseball field fence. This topic will be discussed again at a future Shade Tree meeting.
3. Arbor Day Acknowledgement Update – S. Marr is organizing the April 24th program at Taylor Street School. The mayor has been invited to read the Arbor Day

Proclamation. Also, Registered Dietitian, Carly Sopko has offered to speak to the students. A motion was made by S. McDonald and seconded by G. Pohorely to purchase 1 tray of 98 seedlings for the kindergarten students. This annual practice provides the students with their own tree to plant. It enhances the importance of trees in our environment.

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

4. 14 Lambert Street – The Commission sent a letter on November 1, 2016 to the property owners, stating that their replacement trees were not suitable as a comparable size. It was also noted in the letter that the owners should forward this information to their landscaper. Since there has not been any response to the Commission's letter, K. Halpin suggested that a certified letter be sent to the owners stating that this issue needed to be resolved and that the Commission needed clarification about the chemicals which destroyed the healthy trees. It was also recommended that the owners attend the April Shade Tree meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Oath of Allegiance – The Shade Tree Commission welcomed their newest member, Scott McDonald. S. McDonald signed the Oath of Allegiance and Washington Borough Resolution #53-2017 approved his appointment as a Shade Tree Commissioner. Scott's term will end 12/31/2020. The Shade Tree now has four Commissioners.
2. 2016 Accomplishment Report – K. Halpin completed and submitted the annual report which provides the State Forestry Service with the previous year's maintenance work, budget and goal achievements.
3. 259 West Warren Street – Homeowner (Drew Vanderzee) requested to have a tree in the r.o.w. removed due to numerous dead branches. K. Halpin commented that West Warren Street needs to be evaluated for trimming and removals. It was suggested that the right-of-way trees be evaluated on West Warren for the section between North Prospect to Wayne Street. Quotes will also be requested for maintenance at 253 Carlton Ave., 98 Grand Ave., 36 Alvin Sloan Ave., 125 Broad St., 338, 340 & 342 N. Prospect St. and evaluate 47 Alvin Sloan Ave. The quotes will be reviewed at the April 10th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by S. McDonald and seconded by G. Pohorely that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming